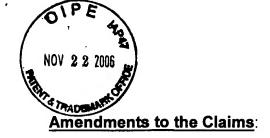
Application Serial No. 10/550,308 Reply to Office Action of August 22, 2006



This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A nozzle for vacuum sealing a plastic bag, the <u>said</u> nozzle comprising: an embossing part formed on the <u>a</u> peripheral surface of the <u>said</u> nozzle <u>and throughout the length of said nozzle</u>, se <u>such</u> that air discharging passages are formed <u>continuously along the length direction</u> on the peripheral <u>surface</u> of the <u>said</u> nozzle; and a plurality of break lines formed at predetermined regular intervals on the outer peripheral surface of the <u>said</u> nozzle, for cutting the <u>said</u> nozzle to a predetermined length, wherein the <u>said</u> nozzle is made of a heat sealable material, se <u>such</u> that the <u>said</u> nozzle cut <u>by the at said</u> break line is inserted into the plastic bag and heat sealed together with the plastic bag, and <u>wherein said air discharging passages maintain air flow while said nozzle is</u> compressed by an external force to seal the plastic bag.
- 2. (Currently Amended) The nozzle according to of claim 1, wherein the said nozzle has a plurality of through holes formed on the outer peripheral surface thereof.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The nozzle according to of claim 1, wherein the embossing part is formed on the inner peripheral surface of the said nozzle.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The nozzle according to of claim 2, wherein the embossing part is formed on the inner peripheral surface of the said nozzle.

- 5. (New) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the embossing part is formed on the outer peripheral surface of said nozzle.
- 6. (New) The nozzle of claim 2, wherein the embossing part is formed on the outer peripheral surface of said nozzle.
- 7. (New) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the embossing part is formed on both the inner and outer peripheral surfaces of said nozzle.
- 8. (New) The nozzle of claim 2, wherein the embossing part is formed on both the inner and outer peripheral surfaces of said nozzle.
- 9. (New) The nozzle of claim 2, wherein the plurality of through holes are formed on more than half of the outer peripheral surface of said nozzle.
- 10. (New) The nozzle of claim 2, wherein the plurality of through holes are formed 360° around the outer peripheral surface of said nozzle.
- 11. (New) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein said plurality of break lines is no thicker than about half the thickness of said nozzle.
- 12. (New) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein said embossing part is formed 360° around the peripheral surface of said nozzle.